**Living for Jesus in the World**

Matt 5:1-12 Pt 2

We are kingdom people living under the Kingship of Christ in the kingdom of this world and we are looking forward to His coming Kingdom

Makairos: “O the blessedness of…” An expression common in OT Ps 1

* These are not pious hopes of what might be, they are what is and can be for the faithful follower of Christ.
* This is not just about the future, though fully realized then, nor is it a standard to show my need for Christ, or to finally find His approval; this is the state of the Christian experience.

Here Jesus is guiding His new followers in the way of Christ, the Way of the Kingdom.

* Poor in Spirit - Spiritual poverty - A change of relationship
* Mourning over sin - ours/worlds - A change of spirit
* Strong yet gentle - convictions with grace - A change of response
* Longing for the righteous - pursuit and desire for good - A change of direction

**Showing Mercy 5:7**

What is it to be merciful?

* Being merciful, not giving to others what they deserve, or what you might think they deserve. Luke 6:36; James 3:17

Mercy is demonstrated in the Gospel

* We have received mercy by Christ’s death for our sins, without our earning, deserving Rom5:8
* Justice was the heart and soul of the law; mercy is the heart and soul of the gospel

Mercy is the pathway to sharing the Good News.

* When you extend mercy to others, you are demonstrating God’s mercy which has been extended to them.

Mercy towards one another James 2:15–16; 1 Jn 3:17

God’s reward: Pardon Romans 11:30–31; Heb 4:16; 2 Cor 4:1

* How do I handle cruelty? Do I seek revenge, justice, or can I express mercy?
* Do I lean towards critical in spirit, or merciful towards others?
* The more aware you are of God’s mercy toward you, the more you’ll be merciful towards others.

**On Being Pure in Heart 5:8**

The Gospel produces a pure heart Heb 10:22; Ps 51

* Think of the righteous standing we have before God, only through Jesus. His death on the cross, His atoning of my sin, now allows me a fresh start. A new identity. A filling of His Spirit.

When sin hinders our way, we think of David’s response to sin. Psalm 51 is David’s prayer of repentance of sin in which he asks the Lord for a clean heart, a pure

A pure heart matures in following the Word of God 1 Pt 1:22

* The result of obedience to what God tells us in His Word is a pure heart, one that is seen in love for one another.

**The Peacemakers 5:9**

The Gospel = Peace with God

We find ourselves under King Jesus, only b/c we have found peace with God Rom 5:1

Peace among men

In times of conflict, the follower of Christ, living by the standards and calling of Christ’s kingdom, have opportunity to be peacemakers. Pro 15:1

* The peacemakers show others how to have inward peace with God and how to be instruments of peace in the world.
* They desire and possess God’s righteousness even though it brings them persecution

Applications: (empowered by the Spirit of God)

1. Be at peace with God, know you are His, born again by graces through faith!
2. Selflessly show mercy towards “that person” this week.
3. Thank the Lord for your new heart and guard against the evil that seeks to intrude.
4. Exercise a peaceful tone with helpful words as you help others to be at peace.